

## Today's Topics:

ARRL Letter 01-Dec-89  
Chicago Fire Department/Paramedics  
Chicago Police/Fire Frequencies  
Other Chicago Area Frequencies  
rec.ham-radio is out of control  
rec.scanners  
RS Discone? To buy or not to buy?  
Telephone Interference  
the FASO of Burkina  
Wall Street Journal on cordless pho

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Date: 11 Dec 89 07:39:07 GMT

From: ka9q.bellcore.com!karn@bellcore.com (Phil Karn)

Subject: ARRL Letter 01-Dec-89

Message-ID: <18541@bellcore.bellcore.com>

> ARRL LETTER - December 1, 1989 - Volume 8 Number 24 - Part 1 of 3  
> [...] It was  
> not until 1972 that the FCC specifically prohibited 'business  
> communications'. The imposition of these restrictions was itself quite  
> controversial because it put amateurs, for the first time, in the position  
> of having to evaluate the content of the messages they were relaying.

This is most interesting. I have heard of the "Eyebank Net Docket" and the fact that it prohibited communications even for non-profit organizations, but is it really true that there was no prohibition at all on business communications in the amateur service prior to 1972? I'm embarrassed to admit that I don't know the answer to this, since I was first licensed a year earlier (1971).

Consider the following points:

1. The motivation for banning most international third party traffic was to protect lucrative European government telephone monopolies.
2. If I understand the ARRL correctly, the US amateur service got along just fine without any prohibition on business communications until as recently as 1972.
3. In 1972, the very same year the strict prohibition on domestic US business communication over amateur radio was imposed, the Bell System launched an all-out war against competition in all forms (e.g., MCI et al). (See the book "The Deal of the Century", by Steven Coll.)

One wonders if the timing of these last two events was a coincidence. Given that the anti-competition war ended in surrender by the Bell System, perhaps it's time that this rule (and the reasoning behind it) were re-examined. With the high speed digital networks now under development, the rules for message-by-message approval by an amateur operator of all third party traffic are becoming even more impractical.

For example, it is entirely possible, technically speaking, to take a couple of N6GN's megabit microwave transceivers, attach some codecs and digital multiplexors, and have a portable 100-line trunked telephone system that could be set up for free public use in a disaster shelter. But to operate legally, such a system would have to have 100 amateurs on hand, one to monitor each voice channel to make sure no improper communications were passed! Ridiculous.

The potential for this technology to provide a "voluntary noncommercial communications service" to the public is severely stunted by these rules. The likely result will be a service that is even more irrelevant to the modern world and unable to defend its shrinking allocations. (The microwave bands are almost certainly next, by the way.)

It has always seemed to me that any abuses of the amateur service by commercial interests would be automatically self-limiting as long as you enforce the basic characteristic of a radio amateur that is inherent in the word "amateur" -- that he receives no pay for his services. Human nature being what it is, there aren't many people who will gladly volunteer their time and facilities to make money for somebody else when they can't get a share of it. I would think this would be \*especially\* true for hams.

Phil

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Date: 11 Dec 89 02:02:42 GMT  
From: att!chinet!patrick@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (Patrick A. Townson)  
Subject: Chicago Fire Department/Paramedics  
Message-ID: <1989Dec11.020242.945@chinet.chi.il.us>

The Chicago Fire Department has two geographical divisions: 'Chicago North' handles everything from 39th Street north to the city limits. 'Chicago South' handles everything south of 39th Street. Southside calls are routed through the Englewood Fire Alarm Office; northside calls are routed through the fire alarm office at City Hall.

153.770 Englewood Fire Alarm Announcements  
154.130 North - City Hall Fire Alarm Announcements - Also includes Ohare.  
154.220 Fire Department Administration

154.265 Mutual Aid Frequency between Chicago and suburbs  
154.385 Used at scene of fires to supervise firefighters

460.600 Paramedics; Ambulances North \*  
460.625 Paramedics; Ambulances South \*

\*These two frequencies are also on police radio 'channels'.

806.9125, 807.8625, 807.9125 are used to transmit medical information to the hospital by paramedics.

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Patrick Townson

patrick@chinet.chi.il.us / ptownson@eecs.nwu.edu / US Mail: 60690-1570  
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Date: 11 Dec 89 01:50:34 GMT

From: att!chinet!patrick@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (Patrick A. Townson)

Subject: Chicago Police/Fire Frequencies

Message-ID: <1989Dec11.015034.686@chinet.chi.il.us>

Zone 1	Districts 16, 17	460.475	Albany Pk; Jefferson Pk; far northwest
Zone 2	Districts 19, 23	460.050	Mid-north; Lakeview; Newtown
Zone 3	Districts 13, 14	460.225	
Zone 4	Districts 1, 18	460.150	Downtown; Near North Side
Zone 5	Districts 2, 21	460.500	Near South Side lakefront; Hyde Park
Zone 6	Districts 7, 8	460.400	
Zone 7	District 3 only	460.075	A south side neighborhood
Zone 8	Districts 4, 6	460.200	
Zone 9	Districts 5, 22	460.025	
Zone 10	Districts 10, 11	460.100	
Zone 11	Districts 20, 24	460.375	Far north lakefront; Rogers Pk; Edgewater
Zone 12	Districts 15, 25	460.425	West side; Austin area; Grand-Central
Zone 13	Districts 9, 12	460.450	

Citywide 1 - 460.125 Traffic; Rapid Transit units; gang crime units  
Citywide 2 - 460.175 Detectives; tactical units; special operations  
Citywide 3 - 460.275 Alternate for use if CW-1 or CW-2 unavailable  
Citywide 4 - 460.325 Youth officers; Crime technicians  
Citywide 5 - 460.350 Alternate; typically special events crowd control, etc.  
Citywide 6 - 460.250 Alternate used by Radio Zones (above) if required.  
Citywide 7 - 460.300 Police Administration; Mayor's car.  
Citywide 8 - 460.525 Low power handheld units; surveillance work, etc.

Miscellany - 453.775 Police Tow Trucks; Auto Pounds

Miscellany - 453.825 Department of Human Services  
Miscellany - 155.970 Mayor's Security Officers  
Miscellany - 154.830 Marine Unit; police activity in Lake Michigan  
Miscellany - 155.850 Portables - Low power for surveillance work, etc.

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Date: 11 Dec 89 02:27:09 GMT  
From: att!chinet!patrick@ucbvax.Berkeley.EDU (Patrick A. Townson)  
Subject: Other Chicago Area Frequencies  
Message-ID: <1989Dec11.022709.1404@chinet.chi.il.us>

Some other Chicago area frequencies of interest are --

471.6625 Chicago Board of Education. Listen to Truant Officers, others.  
453.9000 Chicago City Colleges Security Officers; all branches.  
158.8050 Ohare Airport Administrative Operations  
453.8250 Department of Human Services; listen as case workers try to find  
shelter and peace of mind for the latest victim of a crime or  
fire.

The Salvation Army (461.500) and American Red Cross (462.550) can be heard  
on the scene at disaster sites also giving assistance.

453.9250 Metropolitan Sanitary District  
151.190 Chicago Park District maintainence workers

With the proper equipment, you too can read the transmission to/from the  
data terminals in some Chicago Poh-leece cars: 865.8875, 865.9125, 865.9375

173.2750 and 173.3750 are used by the [Chicago Sun-Times] reporters at the  
scene of a news story to report back to the city desk.

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Cook County Frequencies --

Cook County Sheriff's Police: 153.7850, 153.9050, 153.9350. 153.9650

The guards at Cook County Dungeon work on 153.8150  
The Department of Corrections also uses 154.0250; and 158.8650 for the

transportation of prisoners.

Cook County State's Attorney: 159.0900

The various police departments in south suburban Cook County communicate with each other and the Cook County Sheriff's police on these --

470.7625 470.8125 470.8625 470.7375 470.5875 470.4125

The University of Chicago Police do their thing on 155.1600 & 155.3400

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Date: 11 Dec 89 10:38:48 GMT

From: cs.utexas.edu!wuarchive!brutus.cs.uiuc.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!

ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!phil@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu

Subject: rec.ham-radio is out of control

Message-ID: <30500318@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>

> AT LEAST get the \*&^%\*&%\* SWL and monitoring stuff out of here! I  
> mentioned this before. There now is a rec.radio.shortwave and yet  
> this groups still gets deluged with frequency posts and other massive  
> volumes of SWL related stuff.

Why do you think that the monitoring stuff should be in rec.radio.shortwave?  
There are those who do one or the other and don't want anything to do with  
the one they weren't interested in. By the NAME of the group, shortwave  
listening goes there, but monitoring is still left out in the cold, and most  
people still expect it to be HERE. So until someone gets off their other  
end and sets up rec.radio.monitor I will continue to expect it to be here.

--Phil Howard, KA9WGN--

<phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>

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Date: 11 Dec 89 10:38:59 GMT

From: cs.utexas.edu!usc!brutus.cs.uiuc.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!

phil@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu

Subject: rec.scanners

Message-ID: <30500319@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>

Wouldn't a better name be:

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rec.radio.scanner    -or-    rec.radio.monitor
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--Phil Howard, KA9WGN--  
<phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>

Date: 11 Dec 89 04:36:15 GMT  
From: csusac!mmsac!jim@ucdavis.ucdavis.edu (Jim Lips Earl)  
Subject: RS Discone? To buy or not to buy?  
Message-ID: <2837@mmsac.UUCP>

Can I have some details on how you make those home-made Discones? Maybe some dimensions and/or ascii drawings?

Jim "Lips" Earl                      UUCP: sun!sacto!mmsac!jim  
KB6KCP                                INTERNET: mmsac!jim@sacto.West.Sun.COM

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The opinions stated herein are all mine.

Date: 11 Dec 89 03:04:08 GMT  
From: pilchuck!ssc!tad@uunet.uu.net (Tad Cook)  
Subject: Telephone Interference  
Message-ID: <311@ssc.UUCP>

WB9MVP asked for info on FCC rules regarding RFI susceptibility and telephones.

Unfortunately, there aren't any. In fact, the FCC doesn't even require telephones to FUNCTION in order to be registered! All that FCC registration requires is that they not generate any signals that would "harm the network".

The big RFI problem with the el-cheapo and many electronic phones is that they have the entire telephone on an IC, which is line-powered by a zener diode in series with the line! Of course, the line makes a dandy antenna. The diode makes a nice detector.

When my neighbor's \$12.99 Radio Shack phone picked up my SSB on 20 mtrs (for some reason their line was running across MY backyard to the pole!), Radio Shack told them I needed to get a "filter" for my transmitter!

As if harmonics were causing the problem....

73,  
Tad KT7H  
tad@ssc.UUCP

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Date: Mon, 11 Dec 1989 11:56:54.59 GMT+1  
From: Urs Baer  
Subject: the FASO of Burkina

I read the answer to the question where Burkina Faso is. Please note that the country's name is, according to National Geographic Magazine, Burkina. The term FASO means something like 'peoples democratic republic'.

73 HB9DIL

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Date: 11 Dec 89 10:38:49 GMT  
From: cs.utexas.edu!usc!brutus.cs.uiuc.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!ux1.cso.uiuc.edu!  
phil@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu  
Subject: Wall Street Journal on cordless pho  
Message-ID: <30500317@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>

While it would add a little expense to cellular phones to be encrypted, perhaps a more realistic reason than the ECPA was passed, even though even THEY might have believed it to be unconstitutional, was that it would get cellular systems popular to begin with. Later, when the law is overturned "they" will come out with "Cellular II" which is encrypted and highly secure. Now they have the market developed, and forcing a massive product turnover.

But then, we will get all the junked 800 Mhz hardware :-)

--Phil Howard, KA9WGN--  
<phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>

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End of INFO-HAMS Digest V89 Issue #1002  
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